

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
JUNE 6, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Tom Welborn at 8:35 a.m. Other board members present were Craig Walker, Daniel Steinhoff, Drew Caylor, and Nick St. Sauveur.

Ex officio members present were Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry; Tim Hester, Parks and Recreation; Diane Warwick, State Forestry; David Vandergriff, UT Ag Extension; and David McGinley, Stormwater Engineering.

Visiting today was Zach Perry, Sales Representative with Davey Tree Specialist.

Action Items for June

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- Bob Graves has been selected replace Kenneth Townsend as a Board member.
- Had second meeting about the species list. Kasey would like to get this reviewed and approved as soon as possible. Kasey removed a couple of species that weren't working. Kasey will put list online and go from there.
- Kasey reminded the Tree Board about the Arbor Fair event from August 9th – 11th.
- The tree purchase contract and the tree planting contract is still out for bid. As soon as the contracts are awarded, Kasey will notify the Board.
- TAEP grant application is due tomorrow. The grant request is for \$31,000 this year. The primary focus for planting will be street trees.
- Kasey passed out copies of possible logos for the Board to look at.

Education & KUB Report by Tom Welborn

- This year's Arbor Day Celebration will be held at Christenberry Elementary on November 8, 2019 from 1:00 – 2:00 pm. There will be a tree planting scheduled as well.
- Nick is currently working with Sharon Jean-Phillipe to set up a Public Forum for August.

Trees Knoxville Report by Tom Welborn

- 5-1 Water bags for Trees Knoxville have been placed on trees.
- 5-2 Talked with David Arnold, State Forester, about what is the future of urban forestry program in TN. The state will support canopy survey by cities and will help support this effort, the state is transferring some work to TUFC such as the TAEP grant and champion tree program. He still supports urban forestry program.
- 5-6 Waterfest at Ijams – 8 Tree board members participated. Students seem to get message better this year.
- 5-8 Trees Knoxville Board meeting – major actions were presentation by Urban Canopy Works on how Knoxville might approach a study and plan for canopy, accepted the resignation of Rachael Beasley and will be adding new members to board, adopted staff policies, established a volunteer recognition committee for this year's volunteer celebration, approved 3 River grant application, ACT grant application, Parks & Recreation Grant application for Victor Ache Park and tree giveaway grant.
- 5-10 Tree Walk for Wilderness Wildlife Week at the Sevier County Senior Center which was sponsored by Wild Ones Smoky Mountain Chapter. There were 19 participants.
- 5-13 Meeting with Gresham Middle School and its Foundation Committee to discuss arboretum application to TUFC for Gresham Middle School.

- 5-14 Environmental Education Day with Keep Knoxville Beautiful. 140 students, teachers and parents attended and had 9 volunteers who helped.
- 5-15 Final class for 4th Volunteer Training – 21 students graduated.
- 5-17 Attended workshop to develop next steps for Sing for Climate Concert which will be held on June 29th.
- 5-18 Helped table a booth at the Knoxville Neighborhood Conference.
- 5-20 Attended meeting with Ben Bentley KCDC with Kasey Krouse to discuss how Trees Knoxville can work with KCDC on trees at their facilities. Discussed two KCDC projects that Trees Knoxville could work on.
- 5-21 Worked with David Dunn and high school student volunteer to develop tree list for Gresham Middle School arboretum. 35 trees identified for arboretum.
- 5-22 & 26 Watered trees at Gresham Middle School and sent message to other schools asking them to water newly planted trees.
- 6-1 Submitted a TAEP grant application to TUFC to plant 50 trees in Lonsdale.
- 6-9 Cheers to Clean Water - Tennessee River Paddle-Off will be held at Suttree Landing Park from 1 to 4 pm.

Ex-Officio Reports

- David Vandergriff will be retiring soon, but will be working professionally here as a consultant, and will continue working with the ISA and other groups that he works with.
- Tim Hester reported that the Suttree Landing and Fort Dickerson projects are wrapping up. The Cumberland Estate trail project is completed.
- Diane Warwick talked a little about the expansion of the Tree Campus program to K-12. This is no longer limited to college campuses.
- Diane also announced that she will be attending the Southern State Foresters meeting in Franklin next week. The 2019 Urban and Community Forestry Partnership Award will go to Trees Knoxville.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.